

REMARKS:

Claims 1 through 4, 6 through 16, and 18 through 20 remain standing for prosecution in this patent application. The subject matter from claim 5 has been included in the currently amended claim 1. The subject matter from claim 17 has been included in the currently amended claim 13.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant submits herewith an Information Disclosure Statement. Applicant kindly thanks the Examiner bringing this to the Applicant=s.

Drawings

The Examiner has required new corrected drawings in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.121(d), as Figures 1 through 5, 9 and 10 are photographs. Applicant submits herewith revised Figures 1 through 5, 9 and 10. No new subject matter has been added.

The Examiner has also objected to the drawings as various reference numerals are not visible or legible. The replacement sheets containing Figures 1 through 5, 9 and 10 have these reference numerals clearly visible and legible.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. ' 112

The Examiner has kindly pointed out back in claim 12, the limitation Abolt receiving portion@ in lines 1 and 2 and Asaid deadbolt@ in line 2, does not have an antecedent basis. (Possibly reword). Claim 12 has been amended to depend from claim 6 where there is proper antecedent basis for these limitations.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. ' 102

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 - 4 and 13 - 16 under 35 U.S.C. ' 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,131,931 to Globerson et al.

Applicant submits that limitation in originally filed claim 5, namely Awherein, in said folded storage configuration, said top surface of said front board portion faces said top surface of said central board portion and said top surface of said rear board portion faces said top surface of said central board portion.@ is not found in the cited prior art.

Applicant therefore submits that the limitation found in claim 5 as originally filed, and as now found in currently amended claim 1, defines over the prior art reference to Globerson. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the present invention as set forth in currently amended claim 1 is inventive over the prior art.

The dependency of claim 6 has been changed so as to depend from claim 1.

Applicant submits that limitation in originally filed claim 17, namely Awherein in said folded storage configuration, said top surface of said front board portion faces said top surface of said rear board portion.@ is not found in the cited prior art.

Applicant therefore submits that the limitation found in claim 17 as originally filed, and as now found in currently amended claim 13, defines over the prior art reference to Globerson. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the present invention as set forth in currently amended claim 1 is inventive over the prior art.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. ' 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 5 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. ' 103(b) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,131,931 to Globerson.

The Examiner has stated that folding skateboard of the present invention and the prior art skateboard in the Globerson patent are equivalent structures, even though they are hinged differently and fold differently. Applicant respectfully disagrees for the following reasons.

The Globerson skateboard has two hinges each with a hinge access below the deck of the skateboard. Accordingly, the nose section 14 and the tail section 18 fold downwardly with respect to the middle section 16. The nose section 14 and the tail section 18

cannot fold upwardly such that the top surface would face the top surface of the middle section 16. This prior art skateboard is specifically designed this way in order to gain mechanical advantage for the purpose of structural strength of the skateboard.

This is set forth in paragraph that starts at line 56 of column 2 of the Globerson patent. The unfortunate disadvantage of configuring a folding skateboard as such, is that the distance from the rear hinge to the rear wheels must be different than the distance from the front hinge to the front wheels, if the wheels do not interfere with each other in the folded configuration. Unfortunately, having the tail section longer than the nose section or the nose section than the tail section, as the case may be, means that the skate board is not as compact as possible when in its folded configuration.

With reference to the subject matter of Claim 5, as specified in currently amended claim 1, and in complete contrast to the prior art, in the folded storage configuration, the front board portion and the rear board portion fold upwardly and over such that the top surface of the front board portion and the top surface of the rear board portion face the top surface of the central board portion. The distinct advantage of this is that the front board portion and the rear board portion, and indeed, the central board portion, can be made in any desired length, in order to minimize the size of the foldable skateboard when in its folded storage configuration. This is not possible whatsoever with the prior art skateboard taught in the Globerson patent. Further, the Globerson patent does not contemplate this feature, nor even teach whatsoever towards this feature.

With reference to the subject matter of Claim 17, as specified in currently amended claim 13, and in complete contrast to the prior art, in the folded storage configuration, the top surface of the front board portion faces the top surface of the rear board portion. The distinct advantage of this is that the front board portion and the rear board portion, and indeed, the central board portion, can be made in any desired length, in order to minimize the size of the foldable skateboard when in its folded storage configuration. This is not possible whatsoever with the prior art skateboard taught in the Globerson patent. Further, the Globerson patent does not contemplate this feature, nor even teach whatsoever towards this feature.

The Examiner has also rejected claims 6-10 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. ' 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,131,931 to Globerson, et al in view of U.S. Patent 1,302,301 to Broome. Applicant submits that this rejection is now moot in light of the above amendments to independent claims 1 and 13, since claims 6-10 depend from claim 1 and claim 18 depends from claim 13.

The Examiner has also rejected claims 11 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. ' 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,131,931 to Globerson, et al in view of U.S. Patent 1,302,301 to Broome, and further in view of U.S. Patent 4,084,831 to Akonteh. Applicant submits that this rejection is now moot in light of the above amendments to independent claims 1 and 13, since claim 11 depends from claim 1 and claim 19 depends from claim 13.

The Examiner has also rejected claims 12 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. ' 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,131,931 to Globerson, et al in view of U.S. Patent 1,302,301 to Broome, and further in view of U.S. Patent 266,601 to Blayney. Applicant submits that this rejection is now moot in light of the above amendments to independent claims 1 and 13, since claim 12 depends from claim 1 and claim 20 depends from claim 13.

In making the above amendments to the claims, specification and drawings, no new matter has been introduced.

Applicant submits that the claims as presently on file define over the references cited.

If it would help in the prosecution of the present patent application, Applicant invites the Examiner to call collect at the above telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas K. Hong